

25 Apr 53

TAB "B"

"STUDIES IN SOVIET COMMUNICATION"

General Comments

1. This study appears to be, in part, a collation of exploratory materials on the broad subject of communications in the Soviet Union. It is not well organized or well presented. The material contained in Volume I on oral communication, newspaper reading, and articles against corruption is generally inconclusive and adds little to what was hitherto available on the subjects considered. The material in Volume II on decision-making and communications in Soviet industry is considerably more useful to this organization and makes a significant contribution to available material on the subject.

Answers to the Specific Questions

1. To what extent have you and your staff used the studies?

A. This study was made available to the appropriate analysts for extensive review only very recently. Consequently, it is not a question of how much these studies have been used, but rather of how they might have been used in the last six months.

The material on oral communication, newspaper reading, and articles on corruption would have been used only incidentally as background material in studies related to psychological warfare programs to support the strategic air offensive and the structure and functioning of Soviet controls. The material on decision-making and communications in Soviet industry would have been used extensively in connection with studies on Soviet economic controls.

2. What specific parts of this study have directly influenced your operations, programs, or planning?

A. The material on Soviet industry, in general, and the discussion of the participation of the Communist party in economic control, in particular, contain information which could have been used in studies on the vulnerability of the Soviet control system.

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3. Would you have recommended expenditure of your agencies funds to assist in the production of the study or any part of it?

A. In respect to the material in Volume I, the answer is in the negative. This also applies to the discussion on Soviet industry, particularly since extensive material of a similar nature is anticipated from an existing Air Force contract research project.

4. In your opinion, is the conduct of such research by academic institutions a worthwhile object for government financing? If your answer is in the affirmative, what criteria should be applied to the use of government funds?

A. This study, though perhaps not as fruitful as would be desired, is, nevertheless, the kind of investigation that can be accomplished by an academic institution. The study complies with the criteria which are considered most important in determining whether or not government funds should be applied for research. These criteria are as follows:

- a. That the project not depend to any great degree on current classified material and that significant results could still be expected, though limited mainly to open sources.
- b. That the project require the specialized knowledge and/or capabilities of experts not available in sufficient numbers inside government agencies.
- c. That the project be sufficiently broad and of long range interest, and thus not likely to become outdated in a few years.
- d. That the project satisfy an important intelligence and/or planning requirement which government agencies cannot adequately meet due to lack of time or proper personnel.

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